



Alan R. Shaffer
Principal Deputy
Assistant Secretary of Defense for
Research and Engineering



Mr. Shaffer serves as the Principal Deputy in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense Research and Engineering (ASD(R&E)), a position he has held since 2007. In this position, Mr. Shaffer is responsible for formulating, planning, and reviewing the DoD Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E) programs, plans, strategy, priorities, and execution of the DoD RDT&E budget that totals roughly \$25 billion per year. He has also served twice as the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, during the absence of the ASD(R&E). Additionally, in 2009, he was appointed as the first Director, Operational Energy, Plans and Programs (Acting). Mr. Shaffer has also served as the Executive Director for several senior DoD Task Forces. In 2005 he served as the Executive Director for the Technical Joint Cross Service Group that reviewed the 300 DoD research, acquisition and test activities during the Base Realignment and Closure activity. In 2007, he was the Executive Director for the DoD Energy Security Task Force, which led to the establishment of a congressionally confirmed position to focus on DoD operational energy use. From 2007-2002, he served as the Executive Director of the Mine Resistant Ambush Protection (MRAP) Task Force, where he was responsible for fielding 27,000 MRAPs.

Prior to entering the federal government, Mr. Shaffer served a 24-year United States Air Force career with assignments in weather, intelligence, acquisition oversight, and programming. His career included deployment to Honduras in the mid-1980s and direct support of the United States Army 3rd Armored Division in Hanau, Germany. During Operation DESERT STORM, he was responsible for deployment of the 500-person theater weather force. Other assignments include Wing Weather Officer supporting the 320th Bombardment Wing at Mather AFB, California; Intelligence Officer at Foreign Technology Division, Wright Patterson AFB, OH; Deputy Director of Weather for Air Combat Command, Langley AFB, VA; numerous staff and command assignments in the Air Staff and Office of the Secretary of Defense, in the Pentagon; and finally, the Air Force Weather Agency, Offutt AFB, Nebraska. Upon retirement from the United States Air Force in 2000, Mr. Shaffer was appointed to the Senior Executive Service; in 2001, he assumed the position as Director, Plans and Programs, Defense Research and Engineering.

Mr. Shaffer earned a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from the University of Vermont in 1976, a second Bachelor of Science in Meteorology from the University of Utah, a Master of Science in Meteorology from the Naval Postgraduate School, and a Master of Science in National Resource Strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. He was awarded the Distinguished Executive Presidential Rank Award in 2007 and the Meritorious Executive Presidential Rank Award in 2004.